

## It's Not Fair – Grace Series# 3, Divine Paradox

By: D. Karl Thomas

**Paradox:**— a seemingly absurd or self-contradictory statement or proposition that when investigated or explained may prove to be well founded or true.

**Galatians 6:9** *“And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.”*

### **The Abundance Of Adversity    The Compensation in Contradiction    In Weakness Made Perfect**

**Genesis 15:1-5** *“Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward.” But Abram said, “Lord God, what will You give me, seeing I go childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?”*

*“This one shall not be your heir, but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir.” Then He brought him outside and said, “Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them.” And He said to him, “So shall your descendants be.”*    **Abraham: Father Of Faith**

**David: 1 Samuel 16, 19** *“Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward.”*

*“Send me your son David, who is with the sheep.”*

**David was anointed to be King and yet he went right back to taking care of sheep.**

**Psalm 56:2-4** *“My enemies would hound me all day, For there are many who fight against me, O Most High. Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You. In God (I will praise His word), In God I have put my trust; I will not fear. What can flesh do to me?”*

**Apostle Paul: 2 Corinthians 12:8-10** *“Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, **“My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.”** Therefore most gladly...*

*... I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”*

**Devil exploits your weakness and accuses you —Your Weakness And God's Strength Is A Perfect Match!!!**

*(2 Corinthians 10:10 “For **his** letters,” they say, “**are** weighty and powerful, but **his** bodily presence **is** weak, and **his** speech contemptible.”)*

**If your weaknesses are turned towards people you will get defeated — Turn to Him and you will see His power made perfect in you weakness ... Grace is about Jesus ... Performance is about you.    Devil wants you to Hide and Pretend!!!!**

Stop performing for people and trust me ... I will do my work through you!!!

"Success consists of going from failure to failure without loss of enthusiasm." **Winston Churchill**  
**Acts 27:9-11** "Paul advised them, saying, 'Men, I perceive that this voyage will end with disaster and much loss, not only of the cargo and ship, but also our lives.' Nevertheless the centurion was more persuaded by the helmsman ..."

**21-26** "Paul stood in the midst of them and said, "Men, you should have listened to me, and not have sailed from Crete and incurred this disaster and loss. And now I urge you to take heart, for there will be no loss of life ...

... but only of the ship. For there stood by me this night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve, saying, 'Do not be afraid, Paul; ... and indeed God has granted you all those who sail with you."

**Acts 28:1-9** "...But when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks and laid them on the fire, a viper came out because of the heat, and fastened on his hand. ... But he shook off the creature into the fire and suffered no harm.

"However, they were expecting that he would swell up or suddenly fall down dead. But after they had looked for a long time and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds and said that he was a god."

"... the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and dysentery. Paul went in to him and prayed, and he laid his hands on him and healed him. So when this was done, the rest of those on the island who had diseases also came and were healed."

#### **Shipwreck To Revival - 5 Observations:**

1. Bad Things Happen To Good People.
2. We Often Share In The Results Of Bad Choices Of Others
3. You Often Have To Endure The Opinions Of Others
4. In Every Hardship Exercise your Faith
5. Your Breakthrough Will Bring Freedom To Others

**Job 42:12, 16-17** "Now the Lord blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning; for he had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, one thousand yoke of oxen, and one thousand female donkeys. ..."

... After this Job lived one hundred and forty years, and saw his children and grandchildren for four generations. So Job died, old and full of days."

**No matter where you find Yourself ...  
TRUST GOD AND DON'T BE SHAKEN  
Shake It Off!!! — There is an "after this."**

**Divine Paradox**